

## CLAIMS

1. Apparatus for canceling echoes over a communications channel, said apparatus comprising:

means for implementing, at the start of a communications session over a communications line, a plurality of echo cancellors to cancel echo on said communications line, said echo cancellors each operating to cancel echoes that arrive during a predetermined bandwidth of time, said predetermined band-widths of time being non-overlapping;

means for training each of said plurality of echo cancellors to produce a cancellation signal that cancels echoes arriving during the predetermined bandwidth of time associated with said echo cancellor; and

means for eliminating, after a predetermined training period, all echo cancellors that produce a cancellation signal below a predetermined threshold.

2. Apparatus of claim 1 wherein said band-widths of time are equal in width to each other.

3. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein said non-overlapping band-widths are each approximately 16 milliseconds apart.

4. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a graphical user interface for allowing a user to alter the predetermined threshold.

5. A method of canceling echoes in a telecommunications system comprising the steps of:

establishing a plurality of non-overlapping echo canceling filters;

training each of said non-overlapping echo canceling filters such that each produces a canceling signal within a predetermined time bandwidth;

eliminating all of said echo cancellors with the exception of those that produce a canceling signal above a predetermined threshold.

- 5     6.     The method of claim 5 further comprising the step of adjusting said predetermined threshold based upon results produced by said method of claim 5.
7.     The method of claim 5 wherein each of said non-overlapping filters occupies a time width of approximately 16 milliseconds.

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